

Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., April 3, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 2, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on April 4.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders  
Transmitting a Report on  
Implementation of the Inter-  
American Convention Against  
Corruption**

*April 1, 2003*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

Pursuant to the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption adopted by the Senate on July 27, 2000, I submit the enclosed report, prepared by my Administration, on implementation of the Convention.

This third report to the Congress indicates that 28 of the 34 members of the Organization of American States have formally ratified the Convention (Brazil and Suriname ratified the Convention in 2002) and that 27 have adopted the evaluation mechanism established by the Organization of American States to oversee implementation.

The United States Government continues to reinforce the implementation and enforcement of the Convention in the hemisphere through numerous initiatives and programs that are described in the report. Moreover, since the last report, my Administration has moved forward with our proposed Millennium Challenge Account, which is intended to link U.S. foreign development assistance to, among other factors, the recipient's commitments to good governance and anticorruption efforts. The Convention recognizes that the problem of corruption is a major obstacle to development in the Americas. As such, it has energized the work of the United States and its hemispheric partners to find common solutions to common anticorruption challenges.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that we continue to combat corruption in our hemisphere and across the globe.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard G. Lugar, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 2.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders  
Transmitting a Report on Chemical  
Weapons Convention Compliance**

*April 2, 2003*

*Dear \_\_\_\_\_:*

Enclosed is a report prepared by my Administration covering Chemical Weapons Convention compliance. This report is prepared pursuant to Condition 10(C) of the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction. The report is provided in both a classified and unclassified version.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Richard G. Lugar, chairman, and Joseph R. Biden, Jr., ranking member, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; and Henry J. Hyde, chairman, and Tom Lantos, ranking member, House Committee on International Relations.

**Remarks to the Community at Camp  
Lejeune, North Carolina**

*April 3, 2003*

**The President.** Thank you all very much. Thank you all so very much for that warm welcome. It's such an honor to be here—especially pleased to be traveling today with a great First Lady, Laura Bush. We really appreciate your welcome, and we're proud to be with the marines and sailors and families of Camp Lejeune. There's no finer sight—no finer sight—than to see 12,000